

DIAGONALIZABILITY OVER \mathbb{R} AND \mathbb{C}

Goal: Determine if matrix M is similar to a diagonal matrix.

IDEA: This will hold if and only if there is a basis for V ($= \mathbb{R}$ or \mathbb{C}) consisting of eigenvectors of M .

NB: When $M \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ has all eigenvalues real and M is diagonalizable, we say M diagonalizes over \mathbb{R} .

When M has complex entries or eigenvalues, we must consider M as a complex matrix. In such cases

(if M is still diagonalizable), we say that M diagonalizes over \mathbb{C} .

Algorithm (Compute $M = PDP^{-1}$ if it exists): Let M be a square matrix with possibly complex entries.

- ① Compute $p_M(\lambda) = \det(M - \lambda I)$.
- ② Solve $p_M(\lambda) = 0$ for eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$.
- ③ For each distinct eigenvalue λ compute a basis $B_\lambda \subseteq V_\lambda$.
↳ if any geometric multiplicity is strictly less than the algebraic multiplicity of the same eigenvalue, STOP.
This implies V does not have an "eigenbasis" for M .
- ④ Let $E = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \sigma(M)} B_\lambda$. Then (if we passed step 3) the set E is a basis of V .

- ⑤ We have $M = PDP^{-1}$ for a diagonal matrix D and $P = \text{Rep}_{E, A}(\text{id})$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V_A & \xrightarrow{M} & V_A \\ P^{-1} \downarrow & & \uparrow P \\ V_E & \xrightarrow{D} & V_E \end{array}$$

Specifically, if $E = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ has associated eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ resp, then $D = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$



← evil?

Recall: If B and A are bases, then we compute $\text{Rep}_{A,B}(\text{id})$ via

$$\text{RREF}[B|A] = [I|\text{Rep}_{A,B}(\text{id})].$$

The rest of these notes are copious examples...

Ex: We diagonalize $M = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Char poly: $p_M(\lambda) = \det(M - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 2-\lambda & 3 \\ 1 & 1-\lambda \end{bmatrix}$

$$= (2-\lambda)(1-\lambda) - 3 = \lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 1$$

E-vals: $p_M(\lambda) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda = \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{9+4}}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(3 \pm \sqrt{13})$

E-spaces: Computing E-spaces separately:

$\lambda_1 = \frac{1}{2}(3 + \sqrt{13})$: $V_{\lambda_1} = \text{null}(M - \lambda_1 I) = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{13} & 3 \\ 1 & -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{13} \end{bmatrix}$.

Now $\text{RREF} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{13} & 3 \\ 1 & -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{13} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{13} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ← check!

So $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \in V_{\lambda_1}$ iff $x - \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{13})y = 0$ iff $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{13})y \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}y \begin{bmatrix} 1 + \sqrt{13} \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

Hence $B_{\lambda_1} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 + \sqrt{13} \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis of V_{λ_1} .

$\lambda_2 = \frac{1}{2}(3 - \sqrt{13})$: $V_{\lambda_2} = \text{null}(M - \lambda_2 I) = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{13} & 3 \\ 1 & -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{13} \end{bmatrix}$.

Now $\text{RREF} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{13} & 3 \\ 1 & -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{13} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{13} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ← check!

Thus $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \in V_{\lambda_2}$ iff $x - \frac{1}{2}(1 - \sqrt{13})y = 0$ iff $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}(1 - \sqrt{13})y \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}y \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \sqrt{13} \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

Hence $B_{\lambda_2} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \sqrt{13} \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis of V_{λ_2} .

Eigenbasis: Let $E = B_{\lambda_1} \cup B_{\lambda_2} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 + \sqrt{13} \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \sqrt{13} \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$. Note

$\#E = 2 = \dim(\mathbb{R}^2)$, and all e-values and entries of M are real. Hence M is diagonalizable over \mathbb{R} ☺

Now $\text{Rep}_{E,E}(\text{id}) = [E] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 + \sqrt{13} & 1 - \sqrt{13} \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and

$$\text{Rep}_{\varepsilon_2, E}(\text{id}) = \text{Rep}_{E, \varepsilon_2}(\text{id})^{-1} = \frac{1}{2(1+\sqrt{3}) - 2(1-\sqrt{3})} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -(1-\sqrt{3}) \\ -2 & 1+\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

2x2 matrix
inverse formula

$$= \frac{1}{4\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1+\sqrt{3} \\ -2 & 1+\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence we may write:

$$M = \text{Rep}_{\varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_2}(L) = \text{Rep}_{\varepsilon_2, E}(\text{id}) \text{Rep}_{E, E}(L) \text{Rep}_{E, \varepsilon_2}(\text{id}) = P D P^{-1}$$

i.e. $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1+\sqrt{3} & 1-\sqrt{3} \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot D \cdot \frac{1}{4\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1+\sqrt{3} \\ -2 & 1+\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix}$

NB: At this point we expect $D = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}(3+\sqrt{3}) & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2}(3-\sqrt{3}) \end{bmatrix}$

Let's check that!

Check: multiplying on the left by P^{-1} and on the right by P :

$$D = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1+\sqrt{3} \\ -2 & 1+\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1+\sqrt{3} & 1-\sqrt{3} \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1+\sqrt{3} & 6-1+\sqrt{3} \\ -4 & 1+\sqrt{3} & -6+1+\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1+\sqrt{3} & 1-\sqrt{3} \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 3+\sqrt{3} & 5+\sqrt{3} \\ -3+\sqrt{3} & -5+\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1+\sqrt{3} & 1-\sqrt{3} \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

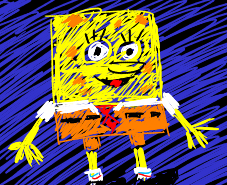
$$= \frac{1}{4\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} (3+\sqrt{3})(1+\sqrt{3}) + 2(5+\sqrt{3}) & (3+\sqrt{3})(1-\sqrt{3}) + 2(5+\sqrt{3}) \\ (-3+\sqrt{3})(1+\sqrt{3}) + 2(-5+\sqrt{3}) & (-3+\sqrt{3})(1-\sqrt{3}) + 2(-5+\sqrt{3}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 3+4\sqrt{3}+13+10+2\sqrt{3} & 3-2\sqrt{3}-13+10+2\sqrt{3} \\ -3-2\sqrt{3}+13-10+2\sqrt{3} & -3+4\sqrt{3}-13-10+2\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 26+6\sqrt{3} & 0 \\ 0 & -26+6\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2(13+3\sqrt{3})}{4\sqrt{3}} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2(-13+3\sqrt{3})}{4\sqrt{3}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{3}+3) & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2}(-\sqrt{3}+3) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}(3+\sqrt{3}) & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2}(3-\sqrt{3}) \end{bmatrix}$$

Bizarro
Sponge...



Ex: We diagonalize $M = \begin{bmatrix} -9 & -4 \\ 24 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$.

Char poly: $p_M(\lambda) = \det(M - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} -9-\lambda & -4 \\ 24 & 11-\lambda \end{bmatrix}$
$$= (-9-\lambda)(11-\lambda) - 24(-4)$$
$$= -99 - 2\lambda + \lambda^2 + 96$$
$$= \lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 3 = (\lambda-3)(\lambda+1)$$

E-values: $p_M(\lambda) = 0$ iff $\lambda = 3$ or $\lambda = -1$

E-spaces: Analyzing our eigenvalues separately:

$\lambda_1 = -1$: $V_{\lambda_1} = \text{null}(M - \lambda_1 I) = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} -9+1 & -4 \\ 24 & 11+1 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} -8 & -4 \\ 24 & 12 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$\therefore \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \in V_{\lambda_1}$ iff $2x + y = 0$ iff $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ -2x \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$.

Hence $B_{\lambda_1} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis of V_{λ_1} .

$\lambda_2 = 3$: $V_{\lambda_2} = \text{null}(M - \lambda_2 I) = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} -9-3 & -4 \\ 24 & 11-3 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} -12 & -4 \\ 24 & 8 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$\therefore \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \in V_{\lambda_2}$ iff $3x + y = 0$ iff $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ -3x \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$.

Hence $B_{\lambda_2} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis of V_{λ_2} .

Eigenbasis: $E = B_{\lambda_1} \cup B_{\lambda_2} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ has $\#E = 2 = \dim(\mathbb{R}^2)$, so

B is an eigenbasis for M ; thus M diagonalizes over \mathbb{R} .

We can thus write $M = PDP^{-1}$ for some diagonal D and invertible P .

(NB: We know $D = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ because our basis E had eigenvalues $-1, 3$ resp.)

Diagonalize: We recognize the matrix M as a transformation $\mathbb{R}^2 \xrightarrow{L_M} \mathbb{R}^2$. Thus

$$M = \text{Rep}_{\mathcal{E}_2, \mathcal{E}_2}(L) = \text{Rep}_{\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2}(\text{id}) \text{Rep}_{\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_1}(L) \text{Rep}_{\mathcal{E}_2, \mathcal{E}_1}(\text{id}) = PDP^{-1}$$

Diagram illustrating the change of basis:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{R}_{\mathcal{E}_2}^2 & \xrightarrow{\text{Rep}_{\mathcal{E}_2, \mathcal{E}_2}(L)=M} & \mathbb{R}_{\mathcal{E}_2}^2 \\ \downarrow \text{Rep}_{\mathcal{E}_2, \mathcal{E}_1}(\text{id}) & & \uparrow \text{Rep}_{\mathcal{E}_2, \mathcal{E}_1}(\text{id})=P \\ \mathbb{R}_{\mathcal{E}_1}^2 & \xrightarrow{\text{Rep}_{\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_1}(L)=D} & \mathbb{R}_{\mathcal{E}_1}^2 \end{array}$$

Now $P = \text{Rep}_{\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2}(\text{id}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$

(b/c $[\mathcal{E}_2 | \mathcal{E}_1]$ is in RREF \smile)

So $P^{-1} = \frac{1}{-3 - (-2)} \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ (via 2x2 matrix inverse formula)

Check: we verify $PDP^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -1 \\ -6 & -3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -9 & -4 \\ 24 & 8 \end{bmatrix} = M \quad \text{☺}$

Not every matrix is diagonalizable over \mathbb{R} .

Ex: Let $M = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

Char Poly: $p_M(\lambda) = \det(M - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 2-\lambda & 1 \\ -1 & 2-\lambda \end{bmatrix} = (2-\lambda)^2 + 1$

Eigenvalues: $p_M(\lambda) = 0$ iff $(2-\lambda)^2 + 1 = 0$ iff $\lambda = 2 \pm i$ $\leftarrow \therefore$ not diagonalizable over \mathbb{R}

Eigenspaces: We analyze each eigenvalue separately.

$$\underline{\lambda_1 = 2+i}: V_{\lambda_1} = \text{null}(M - \lambda_1 I) = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 2-(2+i) & 1 \\ -1 & 2-(2+i) \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} -i & 1 \\ -1 & -i \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & i \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \in V_{\lambda_1} \text{ iff } x + iy = 0 \text{ iff } \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -iy \\ y \end{bmatrix} = y \begin{bmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\therefore B_{\lambda_1} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis for V_{λ_1} .

$$\underline{\lambda_2 = 2-i}: V_{\lambda_2} = \text{null}(M - \lambda_2 I) = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 2-(2-i) & 1 \\ -1 & 2-(2-i) \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} i & 1 \\ -1 & i \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -i \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \in V_{\lambda_2} \text{ iff } x - iy = 0 \text{ iff } \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} iy \\ y \end{bmatrix} = y \begin{bmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\therefore B_{\lambda_2} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis for V_{λ_2} .

Eigenbasis: Hence $E = B_{\lambda_1} \cup B_{\lambda_2} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ has $\#E = 2 = \dim(\mathbb{C}^2)$,

so M diagonalizes over \mathbb{C} ; i.e. $M = PDP^{-1}$ for

$$P = \text{Rep}_{E, E_2}(\text{id}) = \begin{bmatrix} -i & i \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } D = \begin{bmatrix} 2+i & 0 \\ 0 & 2-i \end{bmatrix}.$$

check: $P^{-1} = \frac{1}{-i-i} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -i \\ -1 & -i \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{-2} i \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -i \\ -1 & -i \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} i & 1 \\ -i & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\uparrow \frac{1}{-2} = \frac{1 \cdot i}{-i \cdot i} = \frac{i}{1} = i$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } PDP^{-1} &= \begin{bmatrix} -i & i \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2+i & 0 \\ 0 & 2-i \end{bmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} i & 1 \\ -i & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} -i & i \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1+2i & 2+i \\ -1-2i & 2-i \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} -i(-1+2i) + i(-1-2i) & -i(2+i) + i(2-i) \\ (-1+2i) + (-1-2i) & (2+i) + (2-i) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} i+2 & -i+2 & -2i+1+2i+1 \\ -1+2i & -1-2i & 2+i+2-i \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ -2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = M \end{aligned}$$



Note: Even though this example didn't diagonalize over \mathbb{R} , it did diagonalize over \mathbb{C} .

Not every matrix diagonalizes (over \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C}).

Ex: Let $M = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & \pi \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$. We attempt to diagonalize M .

Characteristic Polynomial: $p_M(\lambda) = \det(M - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} -1-\lambda & \pi \\ 0 & -1-\lambda \end{bmatrix} = (-1-\lambda)^2$

Eigenvalues: $p_M(\lambda) = 0$ iff $(-1-\lambda)^2 = 0$ iff $\lambda = -1$

Eigenspace: When $\lambda = -1$ we see $V_\lambda = \text{null}(M - \lambda I) = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \pi \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

$\therefore \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \in V_\lambda$ iff $y = 0$ iff $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

Hence $B_\lambda = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis for V_λ .

Note the algebraic multiplicity of λ is 2, while the geometric multiplicity of λ is only 1. Hence \mathbb{R}^2 does not have a basis of eigenvectors of M . In particular, M is not diagonalizable (over \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C})! \square

Ex: Diagonalize $M = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 1 \\ -1 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$ if possible.

Sol: Characteristic Poly: $p_M(\lambda) = \det(M - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} -4-\lambda & 1 \\ -1 & -6-\lambda \end{bmatrix}$
 $= (-4-\lambda)(-6-\lambda) - (-1 \cdot 1)$
 $= \lambda^2 + 10\lambda + 24 + 1 = (\lambda + 5)^2$

Eigenvalues: $p_M(\lambda) = 0$ iff $(\lambda + 5)^2 = 0$ iff $\lambda = -5$.

Eigenspace: When $\lambda = -5$, note $V_\lambda = \text{null}(M - \lambda I) = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} -4-(-5) & 1 \\ -1 & -6-(-5) \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

Thus $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \in V_\lambda$ iff $x + y = 0$ iff $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -y \\ y \end{bmatrix} = y \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, so $B_\lambda = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis of V_λ .

Because $\dim(V_\lambda) = 1 < 2 = \text{alg. mult. of } \lambda$, we see M is not diagonalizable. \square

Ex: Diagonalize $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 8 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ if possible.

Sol: Characteristic poly: $p_M(\lambda) = \det \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & 2 \\ 8 & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} = \lambda^2 - 16 = (\lambda - 4)(\lambda + 4)$ E-val: $\lambda = \pm 4$.

$\lambda = -4$: $V_\lambda = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 8 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $\therefore \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \in V_\lambda$ iff $2x + y = 0$ iff $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

$\therefore B_\lambda = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis of V_λ .

$\lambda = 4$: $V_\lambda = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 2 \\ 8 & -4 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $\therefore \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \in V_\lambda$ iff $-2x + y = 0$ iff $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

$\therefore B_\lambda = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis of V_λ .

Diagonalize: Hence $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 8 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$ check! (NB: that's just $M = PDP^{-1}$ \smile). \square

Ex: Diagonalize $M = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 0 & 6 \\ -3 & 1 & 3 \\ -3 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ if possible.

Sol: We apply our diagonalization algorithm

Char poly: $P_M(\lambda) = \det(M - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} -5-\lambda & 0 & 6 \\ -3 & 1-\lambda & 3 \\ -3 & 0 & 4-\lambda \end{bmatrix}$ ↖ cofactor expand here.

$$\begin{aligned} &= (1-\lambda) \det \begin{bmatrix} -5-\lambda & 6 \\ -3 & 4-\lambda \end{bmatrix} = (1-\lambda) ((-5-\lambda)(4-\lambda) - 6(-3)) \\ &= (1-\lambda) (-20 + \lambda + \lambda^2 + 18) = (1-\lambda) (\lambda^2 + \lambda - 2) \\ &= (1-\lambda) (\lambda+2)(\lambda-1) = (1-\lambda)^2 (-2-\lambda) \end{aligned}$$

Eigenvalues: $P_M(\lambda) = 0$ iff $\lambda = 1$ or $\lambda = -2$, so $\lambda_1 = 1$, $\lambda_2 = -2$.

Eigenspaces: Separate computation by eigenvalue.

$\lambda_1 = 1$: $V_{\lambda_1} = \text{null}(M - \lambda_1 I) = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} -5-1 & 0 & 6 \\ -3 & 1-1 & 3 \\ -3 & 0 & 4-1 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} -6 & 0 & 6 \\ -3 & 0 & 3 \\ -3 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$\therefore \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in V_{\lambda_1}$ iff $x - z = 0$ iff $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ x \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \therefore \text{Basis } B_{\lambda_1} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$\lambda_2 = -2$: $V_{\lambda_2} = \text{null}(M - \lambda_2 I) = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} -5+2 & 0 & 6 \\ -3 & 1+2 & 3 \\ -3 & 0 & 4+2 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 0 & 6 \\ -3 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$
 $= \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$\therefore \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in V_{\lambda_2}$ iff $\begin{cases} x - 2z = 0 \\ -y + z = 0 \end{cases}$ iff $\begin{cases} x = 2t \\ y = t \\ z = t \end{cases}$ iff $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \therefore \text{Basis } B_{\lambda_2} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

Eigenbasis: Hence $E = B_{\lambda_1} \cup B_{\lambda_2} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis of \mathbb{R}^3 .

Finally, we verify $M = PDP^{-1}$ for $P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$:

To compute P^{-1} : $\left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & -1 \end{array} \right]$

$$\therefore PDP^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -1+0-4 & 0+0+0 & 2+0+4 \\ 0-1-2 & 0+1+0 & 0+1+2 \\ -1-0-2 & 0+0+0 & 2+0+2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 0 & 6 \\ -3 & 1 & 3 \\ -3 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = M$$



Ex: Diagonalize $M = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & -1 \\ 2 & -2 & -2 \\ -1 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ if possible.

Sol: Char poly: $p_M(\lambda) = \det(M - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 3-\lambda & -1 & -1 \\ 2 & -2-\lambda & -2 \\ -1 & 3 & 3-\lambda \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (3-\lambda) \det \begin{bmatrix} -2-\lambda & -2 \\ 3 & 3-\lambda \end{bmatrix} - (-1) \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ -1 & 3-\lambda \end{bmatrix} + (-1) \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2-\lambda \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (3-\lambda) \left((-2-\lambda)(3-\lambda) - (-2)3 \right) + \left(2(3-\lambda) - (-1)(-2) \right) - \left(2 \cdot 3 - (-1)(-2-\lambda) \right) \\ &= (3-\lambda) \left(-6 - \lambda + \lambda^2 + 6 \right) + (6 - 2\lambda - 2) - (6 + 2 - \lambda) \\ &= (3-\lambda) (\lambda^2 - \lambda) + (4 - 2\lambda) + (-4 + \lambda) \\ &= \lambda (3-\lambda) (\lambda - 1) - \lambda = \lambda (3\lambda - 3 - \lambda^2 + \lambda - 1) \\ &= \lambda (-\lambda^2 + 4\lambda - 4) = -\lambda (\lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 4) = -\lambda (2-\lambda)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have eigenvalues $\lambda_1 = 0$ and $\lambda_2 = 2$.

$\lambda_1 = 0$ Eigenspace: $V_{\lambda_1} = \text{null}(M - \lambda_1 I) = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & -1 \\ 2 & -2 & -2 \\ -1 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -3 \\ 2 & -2 & -2 \\ 3 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$= \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -3 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 8 & 8 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

So $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in V_{\lambda_1}$ iff $\begin{cases} x = 0 \\ y + z = 0 \end{cases}$ iff $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = z \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$. \therefore Basis $B_{\lambda_1} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

$\lambda_2 = 2$ Eigenspace: $V_{\lambda_2} = \text{null}(M - \lambda_2 I) = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 2 & -4 & -2 \\ -1 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \text{null} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

So $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in V_{\lambda_2}$ iff $\begin{cases} x + z = 0 \\ y = 0 \end{cases}$ iff $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = z \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$. \therefore Basis $B_{\lambda_2} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

Hence the geometric multiplicity of λ_2 is strictly less than its algebraic multiplicity, so M is not diagonalizable. \square